MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF NORTHWICH

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1970

by the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Division Medical Officer,
County Offices,
Watling Street,
NORTHWICH,
Cheshire.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF NORTHWICH

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR 1970

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF NORTHWICH

Chairman: Councillor J. Hayes,C.C.

BUILDING AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: Councillor E. O. Stokes

COUNCILLORS

N. A. Ackerley
Ald.N.N.Aitchison, J.P.
T. E. Allen
W. Allen
G. Ashman
R. M. Bancroft
W. Birtwisle
Mrs. G. I. Bourne
K. Brocklehurst
D. W.Carter
Dr. C. P. Chivers
P. Clarke, J.P.
T. Comboy
W. R. Copeman
A. Corwood
E. Dale
Miss G. M. Denton
J. Fareham
Mrs.H.I.A. Forster
J. A. Frith
N. Frith, M.B.E.,J.P.
G. O. Gibbon
G. Gleave
K. Harper
H. K. Hinde
J. Johnson
Miss M. E. Lea
T. H. Lumsden
Mrs. M.M.Oppenheimer
W. B. Parker
T. E. Percival
Mrs. J. M. Pollard
W. H. Samuel
R. H. Shepherd
F. R. Stanway
T. E. Stock
Mrs. E. Wall
A. Whalley
Mrs. M. Williamson
Mrs. L. Wyatt
Mrs. A. Young

Medical Officer of Health

J. E. O'Malley, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for Middlewich Urban District Council, Northwich Urban District Council, Runcorn Urban District Council, Winsford Urban District Council, Runcorn Rural District Council

and

Divisional Medical Officer

to the

Mid-Cheshire and Runcorn Divisions

Chief Public Health Inspector

J. S. Carrie, M.R.S.H.	Cert. R.S.I., Cert. R.S.I. Meat & Food Insp., Cert. San. Science, Cert. Smoke Insp. & Boiler House Management, Hon. Cert. Hygiene R.I. Public Health & Hygiene
Other appointments	Cleansing Superintendent and Transport Officer

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

W. P. Musgrave	Cert. R.S.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

R. D. Clarke	Cert. R.S.I., Cert. R.S.H. Meat & Food Insp., H.N.C.(Building Construction)
B. Marsland	Cert. R.S.I., Cert. R.S.H. Meat & Food Insp., Cert. Meat & Food, Liverpool University, Cert. San. Science Diploma of R.S.H., Smoke Inspector Cert. in Smoke Abatement, Liverpool University, Part II Testamur Inst. of Public Cleansing
A. R. Chesworth	Diploma of P.H.I. Education Board

Pupil Public Health Inspector

G. Corker

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF NORTHWICH

Telephone No :
Northwich 3961

County Offices,
Watling Street,
Northwich,
Cheshire.

October, 1971

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Northwich Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The past year has seen many important changes. The abolition of Divisional Health Committees resulted largely from the setting up of the new Social Services Department. Because of this the Annual Report to the Divisional Health Committee previously included as an Appendix to this report will not now appear in the future.

The Divisional Health Committees had remained in being since the National Health Service was created in 1948 and it was with great reluctance that the County Health Committee agreed to their being disbanded.

Another major change has been the setting up of the new Social Services Department. This meant the loss from the Health Department of the Mental Health Service, the Home Help Service and the Services for the Physically Handicapped and their transfer to the new Area Social Services Departments. Preparation for the setting up of the new department took place over very many months and involved the Divisional Health staff in much work preparing for the hand-over.

As a result of County Health Department policy it has been necessary to fuse together existing divisions and to base divisional health administration on new combined divisions.

So far as the divisions of Runcorn and Mid-Cheshire are concerned many administrative changes have taken place in order to create a single large division. Initially this meant the loss of one of my Divisional Administrative Assistants, Mr. W. R. Jones, and the assumption of the administration of both divisions by my Divisional Administrative Assistant, Mr. S. R. Large.

There has been an expansion at one administrative centre with a corresponding contraction to a sub office at the other. These changes have, of course, led to uncertainties and inevitable changes of duties for the staff involved. So far as possible this major change was brought about with the minimum of trauma to the staff and my thanks are due to the divisional administrative and clerical staffs for their loyalty and support through what has undoubtedly been a time of considerable re-adjustment and re-orientation.

With regard to immunisation against infectious diseases, the outbreak of diphtheria in a nearby large city again emphasised the important lesson that mothers must make every effort to have their children immunised by accepting the invitations sent to them by the Health Department. Only in this way, by maintaining a high immunisation rate, can serious infectious diseases such as this be kept under control.

Measles immunisation has been recommenced now that the national supply has improved and this is to be welcomed as there is still mortality and considerable morbidity from the complications resulting from measles



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infection. The introduction of rubella vaccination for young adolescent girls is a great advance and this should prevent babies in subsequent generations being born with severe handicaps due to the mother contracting the disease during pregnancy.

The County scheme for computerised call up for cervical cytology commenced in September, 1970, and the response to date has been encouraging. It is hoped that this screening programme will identify pre-cancerous conditions of the cervix at a time when treatment can effect a complete cure.

The work of the Public Health Inspectorate is largely taken for granted by the public and I should emphasise the vital role which the Inspectors play in the maintenance of high standards in the environmental side of public health.

Reference to later pages of the report indicate environmental health matters dealt with during the year and show the wide variety and importance of their work.

The investigation of food poisoning cases and excretors, the tracing and surveillance of typhoid and other infectious disease contacts has been a frequent part of their work. Continental holidays are now common and invariably this brings with it contact tracing and surveillance of such potentially serious infectious diseases as typhoid fever. Returning holiday makers not infrequently become either cases or contacts of this disease, especially if they have been to certain countries bordering the Mediterranean where purity of water supplies and clean food cannot always be guaranteed.

The latter highlights the important role of the public health inspectorate in the control of communicable diseases. Changes in the structure of local government at both first and second tier levels are imminent and in the re-organisation of local government and the health services it is vital that this important aspect of the control of communicable diseases will not be lost to sight.

My thanks are due to Mr. Carrie, your Chief Public Health Inspector, and his staff for their loyalty and support, to the Clerk and the Chief Officers of the Council for their help and advice, and to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their constant co-operation.

I have the honour to be

Your Obedient Servant,

Medical Officer of Health

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S E C T I O N I

GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

1. GENERAL STATISTICS 1969/70

	1969	1970
Population	42,230	42,260
Area (in acres)	57,017	57,017
Rateable Value (1.4.70.)	£1,416,162	£1,530,778
Product of 1d. rate	(Actual)£5,965	(Est)£6,125
Estimated number of dwellings	14,483	14,846

2. VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Males	Females	Total	England & Wales
Legitimate	306	331	637	
Illegitimate	27	15	42	
Totals	333	346	679	
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 population			16.1	
Corrected Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (Comparability Factor 1.06)			17.1	16.0
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total births			6.0	8.0

	Males	Females	Total
Still Births	4	8	12
Live and Still Births	337	354	691

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births			17.0	13.0

Deaths of Infants under 1 yr.of age	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	10	7	17
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	10	7	17

Infant Mortality Rates		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	25.0	18.0
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)	13.0	12.0
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births)	12.0	11.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	29.0	23.0
Deaths due to pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	Nil	

Deaths	Males	Females	Total	England & Wales
All causes	243	210	453	
Death rate per 1,000 population			10.7	
Corrected death rates per 1,000 population (Comparability factor 1.18)			12.6	11.7

NOTE: The corrected birth and death rates are those which are obtained when the crude local rates are adjusted to make allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England and Wales. The corrected rates are comparable with the crude rates for England and Wales, and the corresponding adjusted rates for any other areas.

CAUSES OF DEATH

		Males	Females	Total
1.	Enteritis and Other Diarrhoeal Diseases	-	2	2
2.	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	7	1	8
3.	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	7	1	8
4.	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	3	2	5
5.	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	26	3	29
6.	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	9	9
7.	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	2	2
8.	Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	1	-	1
9.	Other Malignant Neoplasms	9	17	26
10.	Diabetes Mellitus	2	3	5
11.	Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	1	-	1
12.	Anaemias	1	1	2
13	Mental Disorders	-	1	1
14.	Meningitis	1	-	1
15.	Other Diseases of Nervous System	-	1	1
16.	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	6	7
17.	Hypertensive Disease	4	7	11
18.	Ischaemic Heart Disease	85	37	122
19.	Other forms of Heart Disease	8	12	20
20.	Cerebrovascular Disease	25	40	65
21.	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	9	14	23
22.	Influenza	1	2	3
23.	Pneumonia	13	13	26
24.	Bronchitis and Emphysema	8	2	10
25.	Asthma	-	1	1
26.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	7	9
27.	Peptic Ulcer	3	2	5
28.	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	1	1
29.	Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	-	2
30.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1
31.	Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	-	2
32.	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	1	1
33.	Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	-	1	1
34.	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1	1
35.	Congenital Anomalies	3	1	4
36.	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	3	3	6
37.	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1	1
38.	Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	2	4	6
39.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	9	1	10
40.	All other accidents	3	5	8
41.	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	1	-	1
42.	All Other External Causes	1	4	5
	Totals	243	210	453

S E C T I O N II

HEALTH SERVICES

1. Information concerning the statutory and voluntary Health and Welfare Services in the area may be obtained from the Divisional Medical Officer at the County Offices, Watling Street, Northwich. Tel. No. Northwich 3961.

2. HOSPITAL FACILITIES

The Northwich Rural District, apart from Tarporley, lies within the Manchester Regional Hospital Board's area, whose offices are at Cheetwood Road, Manchester, 8. Tel. No. Deansgate 6441; Tarporley being within the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board's area, whose offices are at Pearl Assurance House, 55 Castle Street, Liverpool. 2. Tel. No. Central 8464.

3. GENERAL PRACTITIONER SERVICES

The District lies within the area of the Cheshire Executive Council, whose offices are at 28, Nicholas Street, Chester. Tel. No. Chester 23158.

4. AMBULANCE SERVICE

The ambulance service is provided by the County Council and is under radio control from central control at the County Hall, Chester. All 999 calls made by members of the public are immediately connected to this central control. The arrangements for non-urgent calls is that the patient or general practitioner should ring Northwich Depot - Tel. No. Northwich 3355.

S E C T I O N III

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following are the infectious diseases notified for the years 1969 and 1970:-

Disease	Cases Notified	
	1969	1970
Food Poisoning	-	1
Measles	22	276
Scarlet Fever	49	34
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	5
Tuberculosis, non-respiratory	1	2
Whooping Cough	-	8
Infectious Hepatitis	2	2

SECTION IV

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Statement of Inspections Made and Notices Issued

	No.	Informal Notices Issued	Notices Complied With	Formal Notices Issued	Notices complied with
GENERAL ENVIRONMENT					
Dwelling Houses, Housing Acts	610	36	23	1	13
Dwelling Houses, Public Health Acts	43	8	5	-	-
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	251	18	11	-	-
Improvement Grants	183	1	1	-	-
Caravan Sites	9	1	-	-	-
Infectious Diseases	23	-	-	-	-
Disinfection of Premises	4	-	-	-	-
Disinfestation of Premises	41	2	2	-	-
Sanitary Acc. & Public Conveniences	268	1	2	-	-
Drainage, Septic Tanks, etc.	132	5	10	2	2
Water Courses and Ditches	41	6	4	1	1
Water Supply	10	-	-	-	-
Effluvium Nuisances & Offensive Accs.	116	5	5	-	-
Refuse Collection, Disposal & Tips	1066	4	3	-	-
Rodent Control	352	-	-	-	-
Keeping of Animals	30	2	2	-	-
Animal Boarding Establishments	23	4	2	-	-
Intensive Farming Practices	28	3	2	-	-
Air Pollution & Smoke Observations	118	2	2	-	-
Schools	14	-	-	-	-
Canal Boats	2	-	-	-	-
Hairdressing Establishments	18	-	-	-	-
Gypsy Encampments	77	17	16	2	2
Abandoned Vehicles	74	5	5	4	4
Education	50	-	-	-	-
Civic Amenities Act	196	10	-	-	-
Transport	81	-	-	-	-
Cemeteries & Burial Grounds	9	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Visits & Interviews	243	-	-	-	-
FOOD HYGIENE					
Meat Inspection at Slaughterhouses	1153	-	-	-	-
Other Food Inspection	32	-	-	-	-
Butchers	61	8	10	-	-
Fishmongers	13	5	3	-	-
Grocers & Greengrocers	82	19	13	-	-
Bakehouses	23	6	8	-	-
Fried Fish Shops	13	4	-	-	-
Licensed Premises, Hotels & Restaurants	30	6	1	-	-
Poultry Packing Station	275	-	-	-	-
General - Sweets, Tobacco, etc.	19	2	1	-	-
Ice-Cream Manufacturers & Dealers	7	1	1	-	-
Dairies & Milk Dealers	3	1	1	-	-
Vehicles delivering milk & food	55	23	24	-	-
Canteens	8	5	3	-	-
Open Air Sporting Events	8	-	-	-	-
Food & Drugs Administration	8	-	-	-	-
Slaughterhouses Inspections	13	1	-	-	-
FACTORIES					
Factories - Power	79	9	9	-	-
Factories - Non Power	2	-	-	-	-
Sand Quarries	1	-	-	-	-
SAMPLING					
Water	3	-	-	-	-
Meat & Other Foods	1	-	-	-	-
Specimens in connection with Infectious disease	15	-	-	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

A very useful discussion was attended in Warrington with the Deputy Superintendent Inspector on the problems and consequent interpretations experienced under the Act. One of the points raised was the reluctance in the notification of accidents, a problem mentioned in our Annual Report last year.

This year two accidents have been reported, one concerned with a too heavily loaded trolley being pushed up a ramp, and the operator's hand being crushed against a wall; and the other was a chef who slipped and fell in a kitchen. Recommendations were made in both cases to the management by the inspecting officer. Footwear worn by employees in kitchens is often old, comfortable and dangerous, consequently to reduce the risk of accidents hotel/restaurant kitchen floors should always be grease free and kept clear of any obstruction.

Despite the wide publicity given to the fact that premises must be registered under the Act there still seem to be some occupiers who deliberately ignore the Act until threatened with prosecution, and others, at new premises, who seem to be unaware of its existence.

The following is an extract of the statutory return to H.M. Inspector of Factories :-

T A B L E A

Registration and General Inspection

Class of Premises	No. of Premises registered during the year	Total No. registered premises at end of year	No.of Registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	3	30	18
Retail Shops	4	96	75
Wholesale shops & warehouses	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	27	26
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	7	153	119

T A B L E B

Number of visits of all kinds (including general inspections) to Registered Premises 251

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

TABLE C

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	211
Retail Shops	300
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-
Catering establishments open to the public	178
Canteens	-
Fuel storage depots	-
Total	689
Total Males	280
Total Females	409

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Part 1 of the Act

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		Prosecuted
		Inspections	Written Notices	
Factories with mechanical power	109	79	9	-
Factories without mechanical power ...	3	2	-	-
Other Premises	5	-	-	-
TOTALS	117	81	9	-

Cases in which defects were found :-

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were made
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M.	Referred By H.M.	
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences :-					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	6	-	3	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to outwork)	1	1	1	-	-
TOTALS	9	9	1	3	-

WATER SUPPLY

Supplied by :- Mid Cheshire Water Board,
The Grange,
Hartford, Northwich

Telephone No. - Northwich 74263

No. of samples taken during the year	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
By Northwich R.D.C.	1	-
By Mid Cheshire Water Board	139	-

Boothsdale Cottages, which were served by an unsatisfactory supply have now, after negotiation, been connected to the mains supply by the owner.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The following statement, for which I am indebted to Mr. J.B.Birtwistle, the Engineer and Surveyor to the Council, sets out the main drainage schemes of the Council.

Comberbach

Proposals for the extension to the sewage disposal works to provide for further development in accordance with the Village Plan and also to take additional flow from the adjoining Runcorn Rural District Parish of Antrobus were submitted to the Ministry for their approval in detail.

Mereheath Pumping Scheme

Approval from the Ministry was received in respect of proposals to lay a new rising main and install additional pumping equipment at Mereheath pumping station to deal with additional flow from development in the area, particularly at Moulton. The Contract was entered into during the year and construction work was well advanced by the end of the year.

Lower Mill, Cuddington

There was a group of houses in the vicinity of Lower Mill, Cuddington, which were not connected to the main drainage system for the area and with new development an arrangement was made whereby a pumping station would be constructed and the sewage from this group of houses pumped into the Cuddington sewerage system. By the end of the year work was completed on the construction of the pump house.

Oakmere, Re-alignment of Foul Sewer

In connection with the Delamere and Oakmere sewerage system it had been found necessary to resite the main outfall sewer which runs parallel to Chester Road on the southerly side. All work in connection with this was completed by the end of the year with the exception of reinstatement of the trenches.

Weaverham Sewage Disposal Works

A scheme was agreed for alteration to the sludge drying beds to provide for sludge storage, etc., in connection with the better use of the sludge digester. By the end of the year the work was well advanced.

Utkinton Sewage Disposal Works

In connection with the extensions to the Utkinton sewage disposal works completed in the previous year, the Council agreed to the replacement of a very old sewer through the fields, which had been found to be defective. The replacement of this sewer was satisfactorily completed.

Crabtree Caravan Site - Drainage Scheme

A scheme was prepared for providing main drainage from this Caravan site which has a resident population and this was submitted to the County Council who gave approval and by the end of the year had been submitted to the Department of the Environment for approval.

Wincham Sewage Disposal Works Extension

In October 1969 a local enquiry had been held by the Ministry into the above proposal and during the course of 1970 the Council was asked to jointly prepare a report with the Northwich Urban Council on the rationalisation of sewerage and sewage disposal. Work was therefore held in abeyance, pending the completion of this report. Work on the

preparation of the report was jointly carried out during the course of the year with the consultants of the Northwich Urban Council and it is expected that the report will be completed and submitted to the Department of the Environment for consideration early in 1971. In the mean time it was agreed that some minor extension would be carried out to the Wincham sewage disposal works to provide for a scheme about to be approved, for sewerage for the first time in the Parish of Pickmere in the Bucklow Rural Council area which was to be drained to the Wincham system. Tenders for this work were received towards the end of the year and submitted to the Department for approval and it is expected that the works would commence early in 1971.

Lostock Gralam Sewage Disposal Works Reconstruction

A scheme for the complete reconstruction of the Lostock Gralam sewage disposal works was submitted to the Department of the Environment for consideration, but the Department deferred consideration thereof until the question of rationalisation of sewerage and sewage disposal in the Northwich area had been considered.

East Barnton Sewerage Scheme

Design of this scheme was completed towards the end of the year and submission was made to the Department of the Environment and their approval received to the preparation and receipt of Tenders for the work to proceed in 1971.

Acton Bridge Pumping Scheme - Warrington Road

The Council considered proposals for providing main sewerage for the first time to a group of properties in Warrington Road, Acton Bridge near to the River. The proposal was for the drainage from these to be connected to a pumping station and the sewage pumped back to the Weaverham works. It is expected that early in 1971 this scheme will be submitted to the County and the Department of the Environment.

Marston Pumping Scheme - Ollershaw Lane

The Council considered a report regarding a defective sewer in Ollershaw Lane, Marston and agreed to the preparation of a scheme for providing a pumping station which would pump the sewage from this group of houses to the small disposal works at Higher Marston. Approval to the scheme was received from the County Council and the scheme was submitted by the end of the year to the Department of the Environment.

Allostock Sewerage Pumping Scheme

The preparation of this scheme was considered and it was agreed that it should be prepared for submission to the Department of the Environment when Congleton Rural District Council were in a position to submit proposals for their enlargement to the works at Goostrey, to which sewerage system the sewage from this part of Allostock would be discharged from a pumping station.

Davenham, Hartford and Rudheath Joint Scheme

It was necessary to hold in abeyance further work on this proposed joint scheme because it would obviously be very much affected by the rationalisation proposals.

Tarporley Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme

It was not possible to do any further work on this scheme because no decision was reached during the year on the Tarporley Village Plan proposals.

CLOSET CONVERSION
Public Health Act, 1936 - Section 47 (iv)

No grants have been paid under the above section during the year. Closet conversions are usually incorporated in works qualifying for Improvement Grants.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING

415 septic tanks and cesspools have been emptied by the two tankers employed on this work, and, at the same time, a weekly collection of nightsoil has been maintained.

CLEANSING SERVICE

During the year investigations were carried out in an effort to improve the refuse collection service and as a result of this meetings were held with the National Union of Public Employees. The object of these were :-

(a) To provide an improved refuse collection service to all residents of the rural district.

(b) To revise the existing bonus scheme so as to give the employees the opportunity of increasing their earnings by increased production.

(c) To reduce the amount of overtime worked.

A scheme was eventually agreed upon and put into operation in September and,except for some early teething troubles, this proved very successful and resulted in almost all properties being provided with a weekly collection of refuse.

Approximately 3,000 loads of refuse were collected and disposed of at the tip in Dalefords Lane, Marton.

The fleet consists of :-

4 Eagle 75 cubic yard Crushloaders
5 Dennis Paxits
2 Dennis Sideloaders
1 Dempster Dumpster
1 Bedford 5-ton lorry
1 International Drott
2 Dennis Cesspool Emptiers

The labour force employed by the Department consists of :-

1 General Foreman
1 Bulldozer operator
1 Salvage Baler
12 Drivers
25 Labourers

The Transport Act, 1968, has placed conditions on all users of transport which, in our case, are becoming increasingly more difficult to carry out with the existing maintenance staff employed by this authority. It will soon be necessary for the Council to consider the employment of additional staff for this purpose.

SALVAGE

The total amount of salvage collected during the year was as follows :-

	Tons	Cwts	Qr.
Waste Paper	472.	6.	2.
Textiles	1.	2.	2.

The total amount realised from the sale of all salvaged materials was £5,508.

Record of Salvage of Waste Materials since Inception

Year	Paper T. C. Q.	Textiles T. C. Q.	Scrap Iron etc. T. C. Q.	Miscellaneous T. C. Q.	Total Value £
1940/60	5121. 10. 2.	264. 10. 0.	720. 11. 1.	57. 17. 2.	49,988
1961	317. 0. 3.	3. 6. 2.	3. 1.		2,847
1962	259. 13. 3.	1. 13. 3.	1.		2,311
1963	361. 13. 3.	3. 4. 1.			3,133
1964	436. 17. 0.	4. 1. 3.			3,839
1965	513. 13. 2.	4. 2. 0.			4,782
1966	574. 14. 2.	4. 18. 3.			5,442
1967	554. 18. 1.	4. 0. 3.			4,943
1968	499. 5. 3.	2. 10. 3.		1. 1.	4,689
1969	477. 10. 0.	1. 4. 2.			5,018
1970	472. 6. 2.	1. 2. 2.			5,510
Totals	9589. 4. 1.	294. 15. 2.	720. 14. 3.	57. 18. 3.	£92,502

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT, 1967

To further bring to the notice of the public the Council's provisions under this Act a circular letter was sent out with all rate demands informing people that the main refuse tip was open for use by the general public between certain hours, and detailing the sites of the then available containers.

Whilst there is still indiscriminate tipping taking place a fairly high proportion of this is carried out by persons not resident in the rural area. This is borne out by the fact that container sites in the villages are very heavily used, so much so that a further specialised vehicle is now on order for use in this service. Indiscriminate tipping is cleared by the Department on request.

During the last six months of the year the contents of 754 containers were removed together with 62 waggon loads of extraneous rubbish from around these containers.

At the end of the year 18 container sites were in operation and arrangements were in hand to extend this service.

18 abandoned cars in the area were dealt with in accordance with the Act.

DESTRUCTION OF RATS AND MICE

The Council's Rodent Operative has carried out 1,164 operational visits in the treatment of 493 premises. Treatment of domestic premises is free, and treatment at business premises is on a rechargeable basis. The total income from this source is £448. 89.

Difficulty has been experienced in the destruction of mice, and whilst there is, at the moment, little evidence to suggest that the mice are Warfarin resistant, a close watch will be kept on the results of this type of treatment.

The Council's refuse tips are also regularly treated.

The types of poison used in control work are :- Warfarin, Alphakill, Drat, Zinc Phosphide and Arsenic.

Annual Return on Rats and Mice -

Year ended 31st December, 1970

	Type of Property	
	Non Agricultural	Agricultural
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	453	-
Number infested by (i) Rats	292	-
(ii) Mice	145	-
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	27	29
Number infested by (i) Rats	59	62
(ii) Mice	63	63

INSECT PESTS

The Rodent Operative was re-designated during the year and took over a great deal of work in this field under the supervision of the Inspectorate.

Once again there seems to be an increase in the number of complaints of infestations of premises by ants and these proved most difficult to eradicate.

Two unusual infestations reported and dealt with during this year were: -

1. Australian Spider Beetle in a bedroom of a house, probably introduced in hessian wrapping round a new carpet.

2. Frogs infested the houses in a new housing estate. The frogs had apparently returned to their normal habitat to breed but the two pits had been filled in as part of the development. It is suggested that this phenomena could well return for one or two breeding seasons.

SWIMMING BATHS

There are no swimming pools within the area to which the general public have access.

CARAVAN SITES

The following schedule gives the position Parish by Parish of caravan sites, divided between recreational, residential and mixed sites :-

Parish	Recreational	Residential	Mixed
Acton Bridge	2	3	-
Allostock	-	4	1
Anderton	-	1	-
Barnton	-	1	-
Comberbach	-	1	-
Crowton	1	1	-
Cuddington	-	1	-
Delamere	2	3	-
Little Budworth	1	-	-
Marston	-	1	-
Marton	1	1	2
Moulton	1	2	-
Nether Peover	1	-	-
Oakmere	-	3	3
Rushton	-	-	1
Weaverham	1	3	-
Wincham	-	1	-

GYPSY AND OTHER ITINERANT TRADERS

No permanent sites for specific use by these persons have yet been provided within the district, and, in consequence, it has to be reported that considerable time and money has been spent in dealing with the situation created by this problem. There are certain areas which are continually re-occupied in the south-east part of the district and these would appear to be on regularly used lines of migration. During each of seven months during the year action had to be taken on more than one occasion to move these people or to clean up the sites after their removal. The official attitude is that they should not be harassed, in consequence of which no action is taken unless they create a nuisance by their mode of living and their actions. Very few residents, however, will tolerate their presence in the vicinity of their houses.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS

The following premises were granted a licence after inspection by a member of the department and on complying with the requirements of the Fire Department and the Royal Society of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Inspector.

The Laurels, Acton Bridge (Summer months only)
Franbett Kennels, Chester Road, Oakmere
Hunt Hill Kennels, Chester Road, Marton
Firth Field Kennels, King Street, Rudheath
Mount Pleasant, The Yeld, Kelsall
Sualane Kennels, Cotebrook
Blue Grass Kennels, Little Leigh
Yew Trees, Cuddington Bank (Summer months only)

SCRAP METAL DEALERS

There are eight registered scrap metal dealers with the district.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

After discussion with a member of the Warren Springs Laborator staff two $S.O._2$ recorders are now sited within the district, one at Barnton (in the clinic centre) and one in the Secondary School at Rudheath. Results from both are forwarded to the National Laboratory for processing and show the present levels of pollution in these two districts. Because of the short time the machines have been in operation we cannot say whether the trend is upwards or downwards but with the increasing use of natural gas in the area next year's results should show improvement.

Two complaints of pollution from domestic oil fired central heating installations have been satisfactorily dealt with.

The department has a most satisfactory arrangement with the management of the large chemical factory on the district boundary to give an 'Early Warning' system of any malfunction at these works. The uneasiness of the local residents can be very quickly appeased when such information is put readily and quickly into the hands of the Public Health department. The Company did, in fact, on one such occasion, notify us of a proposed shut down of the plant for 24 hours, and pin point particular hazards during that period.

S E C T I O N V

HOUSING

Routine inspections under the Housing Act have resulted in seven houses being placed under Demolition Orders and three houses closed.

Parish	Demolished	Private Houses built	Council Houses built
Acton Bridge	-	-	2
Allostock	-	3	-
Anderton	5	1	-
Barnton	-	56	25 Flats
Bostock	-	-	-
Byley	-	-	-
Comberbach	-	8	4
Crowton	3	-	4
Cuddington	2	6	-
Darnhall	-	-	-
Davenham	2	-	-
Delamere	-	11	-
Hartford	-	34	-
Lach Dennis	-	1	-
Little Budworth	-	2	-
Little Leigh	-	5	-
Lostock Gralam	14	8	-
Marbury	-	-	-
Marston	3	-	-
Marton	-	-	-
Moulton	-	17	-
Nether Peover	-	-	-
Oakmere	-	2	-
Rudheath	-	4	26 Flats
Rushton	-	2	-
Sproston	-	-	-
Stanthorne	-	-	-
Tarporley	-	-	-
Utkinton	-	19	17 Flats
Weaverham	-	5	-
Whatcroft	-	9	-
Wimboldsley	-	-	-
Wincham	-	3	-
	29	196	78

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Housing Improvement and Conversion - Housing Act, 1969

Joint inspection by the Public Health Department and the Surveyor's Department continue to be made of all dwellings which are the subject of application for grant aid.

The following applicationshave been dealt with during the year :-

1. Number of applications received :

Improvement Grants	...	... 46
Standard Grants	...	... 33
Special Grants	...	... Nil

2. Number of applications approved :

Improvement Grants	...	... 43
Standard Grants	...	... 33

3. Number of applications refused :

Improvement Grants	...	... 3
Standard Grants	...	... Nil

4. Number of applications where work has been completed:

Improvement Grants	...	... 21
Standard Grants	...	... 26

5. Expenditure involved :

(a) Approved Expenditure ranking for grant :

Improvement Grants	£16,750.67
Standard Grants	£ 5,612.93

(b) Total Grants paid during the year:

Improvement Grants	£ 7,502.56
Standard Grants	£ 2,680.42

HOUSING ACT, 1969

Applications for Qualification Certificates under Section 44 of the Housing Act, 1969 have been received, in the main, from a large property owner in the district.

153 applications have been received and dealt with.

122 certificates were issued.

31 applications were refused because of defects in the properties concerned.

The landlords appealed in the Magistrate's Court against the Council's refusal to issue certificates in 16 cases. In one case the Court directed that the Certificate be issued but in the remaining 15 the Council's refusal to issue was upheld.

It is interesting to note that the defect mentioned in these refusals was "defective tiles to roof". The Court upheld this interpretation by the department in spite of the landlord's insistence that the tiles in question were decorative and not essential to the fitness of the dwellings.

S E C T I O N VI

FOOD PREMISES

The following table gives particulars of premises concerned with the handling, preparation or sale of food :-

Butchers	28
Fishmongers	10
Grocers (including sweet shops)	139
Greengrocers	22
Bakehouses	12
Fried Fish Shops	11
Restaurants & Cafes	17
Food preparing premises, Schools, Factory canteens & hospitals	40
Licensed premises	68
Total	347

The number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, are as follows :-

Ice-Cream Manufacturers	1
Ice-Cream Dealers	120
Premises used for the manufacturer of sausages or meat pies	28
Total	149

FOOD COMPLAINTS

The undernoted complaints have been received and dealt with by the department during the year :-

Mouldy loaf delivered in district	- Matter taken up with bakers concerned, who re-iterateed their instructions to bread delivery men on removal of stale bread from all vans daily.
Mouldy cheese and onion spread	- Manufacturers Quality Control Dept. visited district and it was discovered that protective foil had been punctured when price marking had been carried out. Instructions given to retailers. Mould non pathogenic.
Black deposit in milk bottle	- Handed to County Public Health Dept. for action
Discolouration in apple tart	- Laboratory report - natural pigment. Dealt with informally.
Suspected foriegn body in seed loaf	- Identified as carbonised particles of vegetable oil. No action

OTHER FOODS

The undernoted foods have been condemned by your Inspectors during the year as a result of requests made by shopkeepers and canteen supervisors in the area :-

Fresh meat and offal	491 lbs.
Cooked meats	9 lbs.
*Frozen foods	564½lbs.
*Frozen ducklings	508 lbs.
Total	1,572½lbs.

*Due to refrigeration breakdown

MILK

The County Health Department supply laboratory results on milk samples taken throughout the Council's area, and any problems on the production and supply of milk in the area are readily discussed.

There are 62 premises registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1961.

The following tables show the results of tests on milk samples taken by the County Health Department.

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
1. Methylene Blue Test	195	7
2.. Phosphatase Test	39	-
3. Turbidity Test	4	-

1. Measures the keeping quality of milk
2. Measures the efficiency of the Pasteurisation process
3. Measures the efficiency of the Sterilising process

		Bulk	Individual
Brucella	Negative (Satisfactory result)	46	6
Brucella	Positive	-	-
Penicillin	<0.05iu (Satisfactory result)	30	8
Penicillin	>0.05iu	-	-
Tubercular	Negative (Satisfactory result)	8	-
Tubercular	Positive	-	-

Brucellosis

There have been no cases of Brucellosis during the year.

ICE?CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS 1947/52

The one ice-cream factory within the district has been visited and the required standard was found to be maintained.

COUNTY COUNCIL WEIGHTS AND MEASURES DEPARTMENT

I am indebted to Mr. J. C. Graham, Divisional Inspector, for the following information.

The number of samples taken in the Northwich Rural District during the year was 58, of which one was not up to the standard demanded, this was a sample of Pork Sausage which contained undeclared preservative; the butcher was cautioned.

In addition the following food complaints were received from private purchasers :-

Complaint from	Nature	Remarks
1. Private Purchaser	Peanuts & raisons containing maggots and webbing	Packer fined £20
2. Private Purchaser	Orange segments containing cigarette filter tip	Packer cautioned
3. School	Milk containing glass	Bottler fined £50
4. Private Purchaser	Bread containing vegetable oil & iron compounds	Baker fined £25
5. Private Purchaser	Party pies - mouldy	Retailer fined £10
6. Private Purchaser	Pre-packed Finger Rolls - burnt oil & starch	Manufacturer informed-no action
7. Private Purchaser	Tinned raspberries containing earwig	Packer informed - no further action

MEAT INSPECTION

The four slaughterhouses in the area were re-licensed and altogether 1,153 visits were paid to these establishments. A total of 16,001 carcases were inspected and 13,814 lbs. of meat were condemned. Joint visits by one of the Inspectors and a Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, continued to be made at three monthly intervals and general any contraventions found were quickly dealt with.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2,476	294	5	10,181	3,045
Number inspected	2,476	294	5	10,181	3,045
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS & CYSTICERCI					
Whole carcases condemned	1	2	5	9	11
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	581	92	-	540	56
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticerci	23.8%	31.9%	100%	5.4%	2.2%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY	-	-	-	-	-
CYSTICERCOSIS	-	-	-	-	-

DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED MEAT

Arrangements have been made with contractors to collect and convey to their works meat condemned at slaughterhouses.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

16 licences were issued to competent slaughtermen and 3 provisional licences were also issued during the year.

POULTRY PACKING STATION

The daily inspection by a public health inspector of all poultry processed at the station has been maintained throughout the year, and a close check is kept on the hygiene of both the process and the plant. At the end of the year an unusually large number of birds were condemned from one day's consignment by reason of E. Coli Septicaemia. It was reported that these birds were suspected fowl pest carriers but this suspicion was not confirmed by the Ministry Vetinerary Officer.

Proposals are now in hand for an air drier cooling plant to be inserted in the production line and this will eventually replace the chlorinated cooling water tank.

The Company continue to mark the polythene bags used for the packing of chickens with instructions and advice as to the thawing and cooking.

1.	Number of poultry processing premises within the district	-	One
2.	Number of visits to these works	-	275
3.	Total number of birds processed	-	1,269,861
4.	Types of birds processed	-	Broilers Capons Guinea Fowl
5.	Percentage of birds rejected as unfit for human consumption	-	1.2%
6.	Weight of poultry condemned as unfit for humand consumption	-	70,314 lbs.
7.	Number of killing days per week	-	5 per week

WATER SUPPLIES

Number of dwellinghouses and population supplied from Public Water Mains

Parishes	Direct to Houses	Population	By means of Standpipe	Population
Acton Bridge	243	692	-	-
Allostock	218	621	-	-
Anderton	148	421	-	-
Barnton	1791	5098		
Bostock	40	114	-	-
Byley	47	134	-	-
Comberbach	230	655	-	-
Crowton	142	404	-	-
Cuddington	1423	4051	-	-
Darnhall	59	168	-	-
Davenham	973	2770	-	-
Delamere	476	1334	3	9
Hartford	1267	3067	-	-
Lach Dennis	92	262	-	-
Little Budworth	169	481	-	-
Little Leigh	171	487	-	-
Lostock Gralam	670	1907	-	-
Marbury	6	17	-	-
Marston	217	617	4	12
Marton	219	623	-	-
Moulton	714	2032	-	-
Nether Peover	158	450	-	-
Oakmere	168	478	-	-
Rudheath	1182	3365	-	-
Rushton	124	353	-	-
Sproston	68	194	-	-
Stanthorne	55	156	-	-
Tarporley	643	1830	-	-
Utkinton	216	615	-	-
Weaverham	2532	7208	-	-
Whatcroft	18	51	-	-
Wimboldsley	50	142	-	-
Wincham	310	882	-	-
TOTALS	14,839	42,209	7	21

LIST OF COUNCIL'S VEHICLES

Dennis Refuse Freighter	NLG 69	Purchased	1950
Dennis Paxit	OMB 401	"	1952
Dennis Cesspool Emptier	UMB 211	"	1955
Dennis Refuse Freighter	UMB 417	"	1955
Bedford Lorry	442 HTU	"	1959
Dennis Paxit	256 JTU	"	1960
Land Rover	348 RMB	"	1961
Bedford Lorry	470 WTU	"	1962
Bedford Van	LTU 158C	"	1965
Bedford Van	LTU 160C	"	1965
Bedford Van	KTU 762C	"	1965
Bedford Pickup	KTU 763C	"	1965
Bedford Viva Van	DNE 788C	"	1965
Eagle Crushloader	RTU 773D	"	1966
Eagle Crushloader	SMA 593D	"	1966
Eagle Crushloader	SMA 389D	"	1966
J.C.B. Digger	SLG 865D	"	1966
Eagle Crushloader	YLG 984F	"	1967
David Brown Tractor	YMB 933F	"	1967
David Brown Tractor	YMB 934F	"	1967
David Brown Tractor	YMB 935F	"	1967
Land Rover	XMB 315E	"	1967
Bedford Van	BMB 972F	"	1967
Dempster Dumpster	ETU 269F	"	1968
Ford Transit Van	MLG 753H	"	1969
Land Rover	MMB 59H	"	1969
Ford Transit Truck	NMA 925H	"	1969
Bedford Cesspool Emptier	NLG 620H	"	1969
Land Rover	VLG 747J	"	1970
David Brown Tractor	SED 152H	"	1970
Dennis Paxit 70	OMB 249H	"	1970
International Drott	SMA 49H	"	1970
Dennis Paxit 50	UMA 464J	"	1970
Dennis Paxit 50	UMA 561J	"	1970